

HOUSE RESOLUTION 294

By Love

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Bertha Collier Powell  
on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Bertha Collier Powell will celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 25, 2016, a milestone that will be commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Charlie Collier, Sr., and Lucy Collier, Bertha Collier was born in the Walter Hill community of Rutherford County; and

WHEREAS, Mother Bertha Collier Powell is the second oldest of ten children, five of whom are now deceased; Mother Powell's living siblings are Charlie Collier, Nannie Snell, John L. Collier, and James Ransom Collier, and her deceased siblings are Kizzie Mae Durrett, Robert Lee Collier, Beulah Collier Ball, an unnamed Baby Girl who died upon delivery, and Walter Collier; and

WHEREAS, Bertha Collier Powell was married to the late Ernest Powell, and from that blessed union, Georgia Mae Gaines was born; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her daughter and siblings, Mother Bertha Powell is fortunate to share the love and support of her son-in-law, Tommie Lee Gaines; her grandchildren, Chris, Douglas, Regina, and Duncan Eric Gaines; her nine great-grandchildren; and her great-great-grandchild; a part of Mother Powell's heart will always belong to her late grandson Donnie; and

WHEREAS, Mother Bertha Collier Powell was baptized at an early age at Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Rutherford County; she later moved to Nashville and united with the St. James Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of Reverend Henry Wesley Turner; and

WHEREAS, other pastors she served under were Reverend Morgan Frierson, Reverend Daniel L. Williams, Jr., Reverend Robert McCathern, and Reverend George T. Brooks, Sr.; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Mother Powell has enjoyed singing for the Lord and serving faithfully in the St. James Missionary Baptist Church choir and the Nashville City District Missionary Baptist Association choir; she was also an active member of Club Number Four auxiliary at her church; and

WHEREAS, today, Mother Powell is an active member of the Sunday Church School and has received numerous awards for perfect attendance; also, she is a faithful member of the Juanita Fowler Senior Women Missionary Auxiliary and the Mothers Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, throughout her life, Mother Powell has exemplified true Christian character; her humble spirit and sweet character radiate the Fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and meekness; and

WHEREAS, as she approaches her eleventh decade, Mother Powell continues to be a blessing to her family and the St. James Missionary Baptist Church family; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor Bertha Collier Powell on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and extend to her our warmest wishes for many happy returns of the day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.